

Formaldehyde Workshop Session 3 Planning Call

April 21, 2014 - 12-1 pm EDT

Attendees

Jim Collins (JC)

Barbara Glenn (BG)

Karen Robinson (KR)

Patricia Stewart (PS)

Laura Beane-Freeman (LBF)

Anneclaire De Roos (AD)

Tom Bateson (TB)

Leslie Stayner (LS)

Harvey Checkoway (HC) (notified ICF of absence in advance)

Kim Osborn

1. BG thanked everyone. Agenda includes overview of agenda the workshop, review the content of presentations, discussion of anything that might be missing in terms of questions, go through the laundry list of logistics.
2. Session 3 structure will include short intro of the session by BG and JC followed by presentations from Drs. Stewart and De Roos. Then the discussants will respond to what they heard, raising additional points as appropriate, and approximately 20 minutes for audience participation. Then Drs. Checkoway and Bateson will present, with response from discussants and then participation by the audience. *Post meeting note: more time will be allotted for discussion after the second set of presentations, which bring together a wider set of issues.*
3. JC opened presentation overview – asked presenters for quick overview.
 - a. PS looked at how formaldehyde was measured in the different epi studies. Evaluated for measurement, quality, work history, metrics developed in analyses. BG suggested addressing different types of exposure patterns and how they might be interpreted. The exposure settings were diverse with various co-exposures, various patterns of formaldehyde exposure, etc. Address peak exposures vs. cumulative, but can't get into it too much because information is sparse.
 - b. AD talked about outcomes in various studies and following the discussion questions. Think that one of the main issues is that mortality was used as an outcome and what that means for LHP cancers. Mortality might more closely reflect incidence for AML compared to other types. How closely those mortality outcome measures reflect incidence in interpreting causal association. Will talk a lot about groupings – when it would be appropriate for grouping compared to specific subtypes. JC an analogy comes to mind – benzene. If formaldehyde was acting like a benzene? In terms of intermediate biologic measures? Latencies would be relevant here. LS, some discussion of time period of the study relevant here? Treatment has improved. AD agreed, will look at SEER data for survival. LS – will we

- talk about recent Chinese Studies that looked at cell counts? AD: Didn't think she will focus much on it here- will be discussing it in the session on mechanisms, but it is relevant to Session 3. JC brought up issues with using death certificate information. AD said if she can find some sort of data about how well different outcomes are captured. LBF has some references.
- c. Goal to acknowledge reviews and how they might reach different conclusions. Will provide information on how EPA conducted review of the literature, details about exclusion and implications of casting small net versus larger net. Will address literature search strategy, approach for study quality review. Hope to present evidence and arrays of the evidence and discuss approach to the synthesis of the data. Referred to Dr. Checkoway's approach in recent article and the way EPA is approaching to get feedback and talked through. EPA has redone the literature reviews in response to advice from NAS. Asked which LHPs are we talking about. TB: Looking at specific cancer types. BG will send the review by Harvey Checkoway.
- 4. BG reviewed the schedule. Preliminary slides are due by April 22 and final slides and abstract with financial disclosure due by April 28. If you have difficulty with this date, please let us know. The preliminary slides will be shared with the rest of the presenters and discussants to facilitate preparation.
 - 5. LS asked to send him any recent papers. TB: Coggin paper, Myers paper came to mind. Will provide to Barbara to circulate to the group.
 - 6. *Final Notes: Because of the packed agenda, the co-chairs will adhere closely to time with intent to allow for diverse views and perspectives and participation by the audience. We also will be aware of the need for sharing time for the webinar participants and the in person audience.*